

1-1 By: Lucio S.B. No. 1312  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 28, 2019; March 7, 2019,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human  
 1-4 Services; April 16, 2019, reported favorably by the following  
 1-5 vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 16, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to certain programs to prevent vector-borne and zoonotic  
 1-20 diseases in border counties; requiring an occupational license;  
 1-21 authorizing a fee.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 76, Agriculture Code, is  
 1-24 amended by adding Section 76.1095 to read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 76.1095. NONCOMMERCIAL APPLICATOR LICENSE FOR  
 1-26 MOSQUITO CONTROL IN BORDER COUNTIES. (a) The department by rule  
 1-27 shall provide for the issuance of a noncommercial applicator  
 1-28 license that authorizes a person to purchase and use restricted-use  
 1-29 and state-limited-use pesticides for the limited purpose of  
 1-30 mosquito control in a county located along the international border  
 1-31 with Mexico. To the extent practicable, the department shall  
 1-32 minimize the fees and other requirements to obtain the license.

1-33 (b) A person may apply to the department for an original or  
 1-34 renewal noncommercial applicator license described by Subsection  
 1-35 (a). A person must apply on forms prescribed by the department and  
 1-36 include a fee in an amount determined by the department.

1-37 (c) The department shall issue a noncommercial applicator  
 1-38 license described by Subsection (a) to an applicant who meets the  
 1-39 license requirements provided by department rule.

1-40 (d) The department may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and  
 1-41 donations to implement and administer this section. The department  
 1-42 shall coordinate with appropriate federal agencies, state  
 1-43 agencies, nonprofit organizations, public and private hospitals,  
 1-44 institutions of higher education, and private entities in  
 1-45 identifying and soliciting funding to implement and administer this  
 1-46 section.

1-47 SECTION 2. The heading to Subchapter F, Chapter 12, Health  
 1-48 and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

1-49 SUBCHAPTER F. ~~[OFFICE OF]~~ BORDER HEALTH

1-50 SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 12, Health and Safety  
 1-51 Code, is amended by adding Section 12.072 to read as follows:

1-52 Sec. 12.072. VECTOR-BORNE AND ZOOBOTIC DISEASE MITIGATION  
 1-53 IN BORDER COUNTIES. (a) To address vector-borne and zoonotic  
 1-54 diseases and standardize practices in counties located along the  
 1-55 international border with Mexico, the department shall:

1-56 (1) consult with the Department of Agriculture and  
 1-57 other appropriate state agencies to study:

1-58 (A) the ongoing and potential needs of border  
 1-59 counties related to vector-borne and zoonotic diseases;

1-60 (B) the availability of and capacity for vector  
 1-61 mitigation and control, including increased staffing, equipment,

2-1 education, and training; and  
2-2 (C) strategies to improve or develop continuing  
2-3 education and public outreach initiatives for vector-borne and  
2-4 zoonotic disease prevention, including sanitation, removal of  
2-5 standing water, use of repellent, and reporting to health  
2-6 authorities of rashes and other symptoms of vector-borne and  
2-7 zoonotic diseases;  
2-8 (2) develop rapid local and regional response and  
2-9 support plans for:  
2-10 (A) ongoing vector-borne and zoonotic disease  
2-11 control activities; and  
2-12 (B) disasters, including flooding, hurricanes,  
2-13 and outbreaks of vector-borne diseases; and  
2-14 (3) perform any administrative actions necessary to  
2-15 address the findings from the study described by Subdivision (1)  
2-16 and to implement any appropriate strategies developed under this  
2-17 section.  
2-18 (b) The department may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and  
2-19 donations to implement and administer this section. The department  
2-20 shall coordinate with appropriate federal agencies, state  
2-21 agencies, nonprofit organizations, public and private hospitals,  
2-22 institutions of higher education, and private entities in  
2-23 implementing and administering this section.  
2-24 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-25 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-26 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-27 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-28 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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